

# Winyates Weekly News 2<sup>nd</sup> October

It's hard to believe that we've been back in school for almost a month already as the time has really flown by. It has been amazing to see everyone arriving at school so smartly and Mrs Bowles has said that the smartest class for lining up ready to enter has been Year Five! We're all so proud of the children and how quickly they have settled into their new routines around school. Already this term as a school we have had two children pass the 400,000 word mark in their REN learn, and across the school a whopping 2,766,258 words have been read so far, so make sure you are taking every opportunity to read and raise your word count at home.

All the staff have been busy planning their curriculum work around our big question 'What makes us who we are?' and I know how excited the children have been to get stuck into exploring it. Homework books will be coming out today along with our vibrant curriculum maps and knowledge organisers. We will be posting just some of the incredible curriculum opportunities going on across the school via our website so please keep an eye on it over the upcoming weeks.

## Stories from the classroom

Reception has begun exploring the story of creation alongside their initial sounds in RWI phonics. They have been using their five senses to think about how Christians believe God created the world and everything that is in it. Through their continuous provision they have identified which animals live on land or in the sea, experimented with shining light through different colours of tissue paper and even built Noah's Ark out of junk modelling.

Year 1 have had another busy two weeks, they have learnt all about their body, including their skeleton, and were fascinated to find out that they have more bones than adults! They have done fantastically well in maths and have remembered a lot of the things they learnt in Reception. Yesterday, they began to paint leaves for their family trees and planned out who is going to be included on them.



Year 2 have been working incredibly this week. Before they chose their class animal, they learned and identified their own personal traits and then thought about which animal was most similar to us. The children then debated and decided as a team to vote for our class animal with the final decision being 'Otters'! As artists the children decorated their own otters, using colouring and collage. In maths they have been working on their number bonds to 10 and 20 and using these number facts to solve problems involving addition and subtraction. In English this week the children have been writing a class book, all about themselves and what makes them who they are.



Year 3 have settled in well and have been busy with their learning. Change has been at the forefront of their lives at school which the children have been embracing as they welcomed Ivan into the class. As of this week they will also be using Google Classroom for online homework as well as the homework books to allow variety and flexibility in our learning. The children chose their class animal, Elephants, and the picture below shows the children presenting their arguments to the rest of the class for the 'big vote'. They will be looking more into how they can aspire to adopt the wonderful characteristics of these animals. The video of how the children chose their animal is on the school website to view - we hope you enjoy!



Year 4 have had their RE Immersion Day where they talked about Sikhism. The children found it very interesting, especially learning about the 10 Gurus and what they represented. They also learnt about the 5K's and what they represented for Sikhs. In their Writing, the children have been exploring trade, economy and settlements which is their introduction into their topic this term. Overall, the last two weeks have been a brilliant way for the children to embrace their Winyates Values and show Mrs Heeley how responsible, enthusiastic and ready to learn they can be.

Over the last couple of weeks Year 5, the (Book) Worm Class, have been busy working on building their understanding of number facts and what it means to read. In their topic learning, the children have learnt about the life of Queen Victoria and they were able to complete a Hot Seating activity to portray some of her emotions.



Year 6 have settled well and have delved straight into some super learning across the curriculum. They have had fun choosing their class animal through a number of different tasks... keep a look out on the website for their big video reveal!

### P.E.

Over the last two weeks in PE the children have continued to develop their netball skills, focusing on the role of the attackers in finding space. The children have created some really innovative ways that they can outwit the opposition to give their team the advantage. In addition to this, they have

been learning all about Fartlek training in Key Stage 2, including where this training method was developed and what the English translation is. Finally, in Key Stage 1 they have been further developing our skills with the Year 1 children working on different ways of scoring goals in a variety of sports, and the Year 2s participating in a simplified version of netball.

### Forest Schools

Just this week throughout the school the children have built towers, told stories, cooked feasts with mud, climbed trees, realised the floor was lava, and strung Autumn leaves! This week in our school garden the children have harvested many cherry tomatoes and had a great time digging up potatoes from the tractor tyre planters - it's like digging for gold! These were all given to the school kitchen who were very happy to prepare them for the next day's school lunch! Hopefully we can keep growing food throughout the winter in the poly tunnel and perhaps even in the raised beds.



### Parental Inclusion Clinic

This term, the clinic dates will be :  
Tues 6th Oct  
Wed 11th Nov  
Wed 9th Dec

Each session lasts for 20 mins  
Appointments will be available at 13.15, 13.45 and 14.15

The clinics will be run virtually for the time being. If you have any SEN questions or concerns and would like to speak to the team, please book a slot by emailing: [inclusion@winyatesprimary.net](mailto:inclusion@winyatesprimary.net)

### Sleep Clinics

Does your child have difficulties falling asleep?  
Do they get out of bed or wake in the night?  
We are offering virtual sleep clinics with Mrs Clarke who is a trained Sleep Practitioner.

To book please email  
[inclusion@winyatesprimary.net](mailto:inclusion@winyatesprimary.net)

Have a wonderful weekend and stay safe.

The Winyates Team